



San Antonio Police Department

Violence Intervention Conference

Strengthening Community Response



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Burden of Proof in Domestic Violence

Sgt. Brent Bell, Bexar County DA Meli Carrion

Ever asked yourself, “Why haven’t the cops arrested him?” or “Why are the charges being dismissed?” This class will explore the two fundamental requirements in the apprehension and prosecution of criminal offenders in domestic violence cases, probable cause and proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Attendees will explore the perspective and requirements of law enforcement officers and investigators from 911 call to arrest as well as gain insight into prosecution process and legal requirements in the criminal court system. Upon completion, attendees will have a more thorough understanding of the enforcement and prosecution process in domestic violence cases and how better to relay this information to victims in their respective fields.

Detecting Deception

Dennis Parker

This workshop will be devoted to helping attendees understand the non-verbal and verbal indicators of deception, how and why they occur and how to tell the difference between guilt and fear of authority in these encounters.

Elder Fraud

Detective David Brinkman

Elder Financial Crime is a nationwide problem which has been increasing in frequency and severity. During this session, participants will learn different types of financial fraud being committed, who the suspects tend to be, and who the victims tend to be. The presenter will examine and discuss different types of scams being used against the elderly as well as helping participants learn how to spot the warning signs which indicate an elder might be in trouble and how to help prevent their victimization.

Interviewing the Sexual Deviant

Detective Bruce Wilson

The sexual deviant is unlike any other suspect a criminal investigator can face. Approaching them with a typical mind set “in the room” can be worse than useless, actually damaging the case. This workshop covers material which is typically presented in a three day school, but the student should leave this presentation with a new view and mindset that will allow a good interviewer to morph their skills to productively engage the chameleon which is the sexual deviant.

Intimate Partner Violence within Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Communities: Looking Beyond the Mainstream

J.J. Lara

This workshop is designed for individuals with little or no training on advocating for victims of family/intimate partner violence who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. When the intersections of homophobia and Victimology arise there are internalized ‘isms’ that will challenge individual perception of accessibility to services. These ‘isms’ not only create barriers within LGBT survivors/victims of interpersonal violent crime but within the various systems of help, such as, victim services, criminal justice professionals and allied human services fields. This training includes information and dialogue on re-directing approaches of how mainstream services engage people that not only identify as victims of family violence, sexual assault and stalking but who also identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender.



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In the Front Lines, Crisis Response Teams: Meeting the Challenge of Domestic Violence in the Community

Officer Betty Cardona, Roxanne Mendez

This Crisis Response Team (CRT) from the Central substation of the San Antonio Police Department will be discussing domestic violence and how the CRTs throughout the City respond to people experiencing domestic violence through victim services. The presentation will inform and educate the audience on CRT victim's services.

Let's Talk Trauma and How it Impacts a Child

Clarissa Zamora

This session will take a close look at how trauma impacts a child, increasing the risk for emotional, behavioral, academic, social and physical problems throughout life. Presenter will also include her own personal story. This session will look at research that shows a link between childhood trauma and chronic health problems. Attendees will also look at resiliency in children and how it is built on internal and external factors.

Officer Involved Sexual Assault and Family Violence

Captain Andrew Carian

This workshop will discuss evidence based strategies being used to change behavior beginning with assessment, placement into specialized caseloads, progressive sanctions and incentives and other ways of holding offenders accountable for their actions while on probation.

Out of the Ashes: Survivors' Stories

J.E. Briggs, Jr., Deborah Callaghan-Shea, Pamela Taylor

This workshop will discuss evidence based strategies being used to change behavior beginning with assessment, placement into specialized caseloads, progressive sanctions and incentives and other ways of holding offenders accountable for their actions while on probation.

Psychopathy: Understanding this Devastating Personality Disorder from Crime Scene to the Court Room

Dr. Mary O'Toole

Psychopathy is considered the leading forensic concept for the 21st century. Psychopaths can present an enormous challenge for law enforcement, mental health, prosecutors, judges, victim advocates and the general public. It is estimated that one out of a hundred people manifest traits of psychopathy. While most psychopaths are not violent, those who are - are responsible for as much as 40% of the violence in this country. How psychopaths treat their victims, their behaviors at a crime scene and their presence in the courtroom can be shocking. They have a stunning lack of empathy and disregard for others. They lack guilt for their actions and the damage they have caused. While glib and charming they are grandiose and impulsive risk takers, who are entitled, and take what they want from others, when they want it. Understanding psychopathy from a behavioral perspective, including the traits and characteristics of the disorder can help the professional deal more effectively with these individuals, whether they are investigating their crimes, interviewing a psychopath, prosecuting a psychopath, interacting with one in a prison setting or providing assistance to the victim of a psychopath.



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Probation and It's Role in Offender Accountability

Frances Rendon

This workshop will discuss evidence based strategies being used to change behavior beginning with assessment, placement into specialized caseloads, progressive sanctions and incentives and other ways of holding offenders accountable for their actions while on probation.

Saving Daniel

Stephanie Escamilla

Daniel was diagnosed at an early age with ADHD and Bipolar Disorder. Since his diagnosis, we have been on the roller coaster ride that is beyond enjoyment. There have been many obstacles that we have been able to get through but there are some that we are still struggling with. Living with a child with mental illness has been quite challenging. As his mother, it's been a difficult task at times. There have been many lonely nights of wishing for a silver lining at the end of this ride but the ride continues with only a glimpse of what it may look like. A happy ending is only a dream for a parent like me. I know there are many parents out in this world that feel blame, guilt, worthlessness, and not knowing who to reach out to without feeling the stigma. My purpose is to share our story in hopes that it will give other families the courage to reach out and ask for help. I also want to help fight the stigma by opening our doors to those that have never experienced mental illness and get a first hand look at what it's like to live with it on a daily basis.

Sex Offender Registration Program

Detective Rudy Gomez

This presentation will inform the audience about the many aspects of the sex offender registration program. Also discussed will be the San Antonio Police Department's role in administering the program to include enforcing and following up violations of this law.

South Asian Cultural Competency and How Awaaz Can Help

Hema Bhakta, Tapasi Misra, Pooja Tripathi

Awaaz (meaning "voice" in Hindi and Urdu) is a local non-profit bringing awareness of the cultural barriers faced by South Asians when seeking help for family violence. This class is being offered in hopes that local clinicians will better understand the unique needs of the South Asian community. Despite being referred to as the "model minority", our cultural taboos often lead to victim blaming, which in turn results in fewer reporting of acts of violence. Purpose of our class is to help attendees better serve this community in times of crisis.

The Jennifer Schuett Case

Tim Cromie, Jennifer Schuett

This is a case study of an 18 year old cold case involving the survivor, Jennifer Schuett, who in 1990 at the age of eight was abducted from her bedroom window, brutally raped, and left to die in a vacant field with her throat slashed and unable to talk. Jennifer was found alive more than twelve hours later. The case was handed to one detective to another for 18 years. In 2008, a local detective teamed up with a longtime friend and FBI agent, and together they sought justice for Jennifer. While the police detective will talk about the twists and turns and share the highs and lows in an investigation that eventually led to the arrest of the suspect in another state, Jennifer herself will share a survivor's view of the frustrations and triumphs of working closely with law enforcement on her journey to victory.



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The Psychopaths Among Us

Lyn Williams

This two part presentation is designed to provide in-depth information regarding sexual predation. Understanding perpetrators of sex crimes allows medical personnel to care for sexual assault victims in a more competent, compassionate fashion.

The Role of SANE Nurses in Sexual Abuse Cases

Shelley Botello RN BSN CA-SANE, SANE-A, SANE-P

Laurie Charles, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P, CACPSANE

This workshop will focus on the role of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) in the Sexual Assault Investigation: process. Shelley and Laurie will discuss the medical/forensic needs necessary for sexual assault victims presenting across the lifespan. Discussion will include presentation, assessment/evaluation for medical/forensic needs and necessary documentation and photography for best case possible will be discussed as we explore the sexual assault patient.

What's Happening in Your Backyard: Human Trafficking in the Alamo Area

Kirsta Leeburg Melton

This course will define human trafficking, explore victim and perpetrator typologies with real life case examples, provide red flags for identifying potential victims, discuss societal causes and post-rescue victim needs.

Keep checking this page. More workshop descriptions will be added as they become available.
